SUGIYAMA et al. -- Appl. No. 09/801,672

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Entry of the present Amendment and reconsideration of all claims remaining of record as

presently amended are earnestly requested. Applicants appreciate that the Examiner has determined

claims 2-7, 9-22 and 24-30 to be patentable over the prior art of record. By this amendment, claims

32-38 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicants submit that all claims now

remaining in the present application are in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit a Notice to

that effect. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below

if any further matter remains outstanding.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

William G. Niessen

Reg. No. 29,683

WGN:ap

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor

Arlington, VA 22203-1808

Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100